



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

VALERIE ERVIN
COUNCILMEMBER
DISTRICT 5

April 15, 2009

To: Arthur Holmes, Director, Department of Transportation
Nancy Floreen, Chair, Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy, and Environment
Committee

Re: Status of the Metropolitan Branch Trail

With ongoing construction of the Silver Spring Transit Center and adjacent projects in the Ripley District, I am requesting an update on the status of the Metropolitan Branch Trail project. Last year, the Department of Transportation (DOT) reported that their progress was stalled due to ongoing negotiations with CSX. The Committee asked that DOT provide Council with an update when negotiations had proceeded and new cost estimates were available.

I would greatly appreciate a full update on the project in June so that it can be considered for funding in the FY11-16 Capital Improvement Program. I believe that the Metropolitan Branch Trail is critical to downtown Silver Spring and needs to be constructed in tandem with the Silver Spring Transit Center so that the Center's goal of being a multi-modal transit Center can be realized.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Valerie Ervin".

Valerie Ervin

c: Bruce Johnston, Division Chief Capital Projects and Construction, Department of
Transportation
Edgar Gonzalez, Deputy Director for Transportation Policy, Department of
Transportation
Rollin Stanley, Director, Montgomery County Planning Department
Roylene Roberts, Acting Director, Silver Spring Regional Service Center
Glenn Orlin, Deputy Director, Montgomery County Council